

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

"The Literary Miscellany" and "The General Repository" · Lewis P. Simpson · 177

Bryant and Isaac Henderson (II) · Theodore Hornberger · 191

Jared Bean, Philobiblos · Fred Folmer · 209

The Arthur Livingston Papers (At The University of Texas) · Carl A. Swanson · 220

New Acquisitions: Latin American Collection, Rare Books, General · The Library Staff · 223

VOL. III · SPRING 1950 · NO. 4

AMIDST THE DOWNWARD TENDENCY AND
PRONENESS OF THINGS · WHEN EVERY
VOICE IS RAISED FOR A NEW ROAD
OR ANOTHER STATUTE OR A SUBSCRIP-
TION OF STOCK · FOR AN IMPROVEMENT
IN DRESS OR IN DENTISTRY · FOR A
NEW HOUSE OR A LARGER BUSINESS ·
FOR A POLITICAL PARTY OR THE
DIVISION OF AN ESTATE · WILL YOU
NOT TOLERATE ONE OR TWO SOLITARY
VOICES IN THE LAND SPEAKING FOR
THOUGHTS AND PRINCIPLES NOT MAR-
KETABLE OR PERISHABLE? · EMERSON

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VOL. III

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"The Literary Miscellany" and "The General Repository"

Two Cambridge Periodicals of the Early Republic

WHEN William Tudor commenced the *North American Review* in 1815, he and his compatriots had no reason to hope that the venture would last for long, certainly not for well over a century. A serious periodical designed to afford intellectual communication and to advance the mind—the Boston-Cambridge community had seen three publications with similar purposes fail since the new century had dawned. And though the era that began in 1815 held forth increased hope for letters and learning in America, these failures promised no assurance to the Boston literati that they could inaugurate a long-lived literary journal. Yet the fact that the *North American* did succeed is integrally connected with those earlier efforts in magazine making: *The Monthly Anthology and Boston Review* (1803–1811), published in Boston and sponsored and edited during most of its life by a literary club called the Anthology Society; *The Literary Miscellany* (1804–1806), a quarterly journal published in Cambridge under the auspices of Harvard's Phi Beta Kappa Society; and *The General Repository and Review* (1812–1813), another quarterly published at Cambridge and edited at first by Andrews Norton and later by a "Society of Gentlemen." Among the products of approximately a generation of literary apprenticeship served

by the Boston-Cambridge intellectuals prior to the "flowering of New England," the *Anthology*, the *Miscellany*, and the *Repository* are useful indexes to the neglected but important germinal period of the mid-century epoch. Any student devotedly interested in nineteenth-century American literature—certainly any student making a comprehensive study of the New England Renaissance culture—should familiarize himself with them.

These increasingly rare periodicals are all represented in the collection of nineteenth-century American magazines on the shelves of The University of Texas Library.¹ Unfortunately it is safe to conjecture that students of the New England Renaissance at Texas (like their counterparts elsewhere) seldom turn to them or soon leave them to their long obscurity if they do. To establish a rewarding acquaintance with them indeed is not easy. It is a truism in scholarship that minor literary materials of this kind demand from a student not only a general background in the period concerned but also a specialized knowledge of the history of the materials themselves. In the case of these magazines one obviously needs to understand something about the circumstances of their editing and publishing before he undertakes to evaluate their significance in New England's literary and intellectual history. The purpose of this short article is to bring together information about the editing and publishing of the *Miscellany* and the *Repository* that will be helpful to anyone who may examine them with an inspiration beyond mere curiosity. I hope in the future to

¹The set of the *Repository* is complete and in unusually good condition. It is especially valuable because the covers on several issues are preserved, together with the useful information contained thereon. The set of the *Anthology* lacks Volume X, the last (and fortunately least important) volume. The *Miscellany* is represented by Volume I and one number of the second volume. One can now easily bridge the gaps in these files, however, by making use of the American Periodical Series by University Microfilms.

publish a more definitive account of the Anthology Society and *The Monthly Anthology* than has yet appeared.²

I

In 1800 the Phi Beta Kappa Society at Harvard, moved by the growing impulse in the United States to establish a native tradition in letters and learning, set up a "fund for the relief of indigent merit" as a source of patronage for promising but improverished young American scholars. Shortly thereafter the Society, or some of its members at any rate, made a second gesture towards quickening intellectual life in the new nation by proposing to found a literary periodical. The result was the appearance four years later of *The Literary Miscellany*.³

Though the full history of this little Cambridge quarterly was lost with the disappearance of the Phi Beta Kappa's anniversary record book many years ago, the story of its commencement is in part preserved in Sidney Willard's *Memories of Youth and Manhood*.⁴ This account is corrected by a few details recently supplied by Oscar M. Voorhees in his *History of Phi Beta Kappa*. Through the examination of letters at Yale and the minutes of Phi Beta Kappa at Yale and Dartmouth, Voorhees discovered that the Harvard projectors of a magazine aspired to make it an interfraternity enterprise which would draw talent from the three leading New England colleges. Evidently the chief proponent of the alliance was Willard, Recording and Corresponding Secretary of the Harvard chapter. At its annual meeting on September 11, 1800, the Yale chapter adopted a resolution to appoint a

²See Frank Luther Mott, *A History of American Magazines, 1741-1850* (Cambridge, Mass., 1938), for brief treatments of these three publications. The material presented in this article, though necessarily abbreviated also, supplements that given in Mott.

³See Oscar M. Voorhees, *History of Phi Beta Kappa* (New York, 1945), 93-94.

⁴Published at Cambridge, Mass., 1855. See II, 156. This autobiography by Willard, Hancock Professor of Hebrew and Oriental Languages at Harvard, is a valuable source of information about the Boston world during the first half of the nineteenth century. It is to be found in The University of Texas Library.

committee to correspond with their Harvard colleagues on the subject of a joint periodical enterprise. The following year Willard wrote to the Yale chapter stating the names of five well-known members of Phi Beta Kappa who had been chosen to work out plans for a periodical. This committee made a report in June, 1802, that led to the appointment of another committee to conduct a magazine. A prospectus, of which no copy is extant, was prepared; and Willard enclosed it in a letter written June 13, 1803, asking the Yale brethren "for any assistance to the work, either by becoming subscribers, or by transmitting communications on any of the subjects proposed or which are connected with [the] design of the publication." He continues:

The Society has acquired a degree of celebrity in the public opinion which it must strive to preserve. Without endeavoring to raise expectations we know that much is expected from the Literary Miscellany. These high expectations must not be disappointed.

The Dartmouth chapter also received a copy of the proposals for the literary magazine. But Yale and Dartmouth did little if anything to support the Cambridge publication. "I am sorry . . . that you have not seen fit to aid us by Literary contributions for our Miscellany," Willard, still seeking aid, writes to the Yale society on March 4, 1805, after the Harvard hopefuls had published two numbers. The Dartmouth chapter, called upon again also, appointed an ineffectual committee on the *Miscellany*.⁵ The publication was definitely a product of the Cantabrigians.

The *Miscellany* appeared veiled in anonymity. No sponsorship or editorial support is announced; even the date of publication is omitted. The reason why the Harvard Phi Beta Kappa, realizing an aspiration of several years' standing to publish a magazine, preferred not to declare its affiliation with the *Mis-*

⁵See Voorhees, *Phi Beta Kappa*, 94-95.

cellany is unclear. It does not lie simply in conformance to the custom of anonymity. The editors apparently desired not to place the Society before the public as being officially responsible for the publication. There were two reasons. One was that the actual relation between the group as a whole and the magazine was, as Willard recalls, "little more than nominal." He states: "All was left to the discretion of the committee, to provide and arrange the materials, and take all responsibility for the publication." Another and more forceful reason for not making the *Miscellany* an official publication of the Phi Beta Kappa was a political one. Around the turn of the century the fear of Adam Weishaupt and the Bavarian Illuminati created an air of hostility to secret societies in New England. Thus Professor Eliphalet Pearson thought that a publication issuing from a secret society at Harvard might well provoke suspicion among the sensitive public, some of whom might even guess that the first letter on the Phi Beta Kappa medal stands for *philosophia*, a term "canonized as a sainted word in the vocabulary of the French reformers."⁶ That the *Miscellany*, though designed to be a quarterly, is undated may be attributed perhaps to the realization by the editors that they should not commit themselves to a schedule various uncertainties would almost surely disrupt. There seems to be no way to determine the issue dates of each of the eight numbers that comprise the two octavo volumes totaling four hundred pages that were published. The first number, however, came out in June, 1804, if a notice in the *Anthology* is correct.⁷ The last number can be dated June, 1806, or possibly later. William Smith Shaw in a letter to Joseph Stevens Buckminster on December 31, 1806, remarks, "The *Miscellany* died a natural death last Commence-

⁶See Willard, *Memories*, II, 155, 139.

⁷See "Literary Intelligence," I, 428 (July, 1804). Willard dates the first number July, 1804. See *Memories*, II, 158.

ment."⁸ This statement indicates that all eight numbers were published by the last of August, 1806.

The manner in which the *Miscellany*, published throughout its existence by William Hilliard at Cambridge, was edited is more or less conjectural. Presumably it was always, as Willard remembered, under the direction of a committee designated by the Phi Beta Kappa chapter. Committee members responsible for the initial number are unknown, save for the Reverend Thaddeus Mason Harris and Levi Hedge. Harris was an enthusiastic promoter of magazines and learned societies, Hedge a tutor in philosophy at Harvard. On August 30, 1804, this committee reported and the actual work of carrying on the publication was assigned to Harris, Hedge, the Reverend John Pierce of Brookline, William (or Joseph ?) Emerson, Francis Dana Channing, William Jenks, Parker Cleveland, Willard, and the Reverend John Thornton Kirkland.⁹ Probably Willard, Hedge, and Harris were the most active editors. But they should have received competent aid from Channing, the brother of the famous preacher; Jenks, a teacher in a private classical school; and Cleveland, a Harvard tutor.

Of the contributors to the magazine more is known. The authorship of all the more important pieces is established by Willard. Besides Willard himself, Arthur Maynard Walter, the Reverend Joseph Stevens Buckminster, Harris, William Wells, Andrews Norton, and Kirkland were among those who wrote for the little quarterly. These men were all intimates of the Anthology circle. Walter was a young Boston lawyer with a literary bent, his friend Buckminster the most brilliant young minister in the Boston area. Their companion Norton

⁸Eliza Buckminster Lee, *Memoirs of Rev. Joseph Buckminster, D.D., and of His Son, Rev. Joseph Stevens Buckminster* (Boston, 1849), 404. Another valuable and comparatively rare book that illuminates the development of the New England mind in the nineteenth century. Also in The University of Texas Library.

⁹See Willard, *Memories*, II, 323. In 1805, according to Voorhees (*Phi Beta Kappa*, 96), Willard listed these men as editors, except that he named Joseph Emerson instead of William. The former, a classmate of Willard at Harvard, lived in Beverly, Massachusetts.

was beginning the scholarly career that led eventually to the Dexter professorship of Sacred Literature at Harvard. Wells, a classical scholar, was a book-seller in Boston.

The *Miscellany's* aims are distinctly redolent of the eighteenth century. In an exuberant prospectus prepared by Harris, the editors exhibit bold aspirations in nearly every field of human endeavor. They propose to clarify the ambiguities and to correct the misrepresentations in historical literature; to comment on the mythology, customs, manners, and antiquities of nations; to study the Hebrew and Oriental literatures and the Greek and Roman writings; to furnish biographical notices of famous men; to explore ethics, jurisprudence, natural religion and Christian revelation, mathematics, natural philosophy, astronomy, chemistry, and natural history. "We call upon men of talents for dissertations and essays upon all subjects of POLITE LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND TASTE; and wish our publication to be considered a repository for the lucubrations of the Scholar, the speculations of the Philosopher, and the lectures of the Divine," the editors declare. Nor do they forget to call upon "the favorites of the *Muses* . . . to decorate this vestibule of Literature with flowers cropt on the borders of Helicon. . . ." Finally, the *Miscellany* would devote a portion of its space to reviewing both ancient and modern publications, with particular attention to books published in the United States.¹⁰ Truly a prodigious miscellany! As Willard remarks, this "wide field for the labors of literary and scientific men . . . was broken up and cultivated to some extent. . . ."¹¹ Of significance are Harris's article on "Literary and Benevolent Associations" and his poem on patronage, Buckminster's review of Samuel Miller's *Brief Retrospect of the Eighteenth Century*, Norton's essay on William Cowper, Walter's letter from Paris on the "Influence of Religion upon the Fine Arts," and his essay on the "Present

¹⁰See *Miscellany*, I, 1-4.

¹¹*Memories*, II, 140.

State of English Poetry." Not to be forgotten is F. D. Channings' abridgement of an article on German literature from the *German Museum*. On the whole the *Miscellany* is weak in its review and literary intelligence departments. Nor does its poetry section show much worth notice. Yet to the sensitive historian of literary culture its contents are more revealing than these brief comments indicate.

The most curious episode connected with this Cambridge quarterly was a sort of internecine quarrel that developed between it and the Boston *Anthology*. When the first number of the *Miscellany* was brought out, about eight months following the appearance of the *Anthology*, William Emerson bowed to the new periodical in the *Anthology's* department of "Literary Intelligence": "We regard this new literary guest rather with eyes of fraternal affection, than of envy; and hope, that the joint efforts of the family connections will tend to improve the morals, and refine the taste of the public."¹² Upon the *Miscellany's* third appearance, however, Emerson came forth with some carping "Observations on the Literary Miscellany," contending that "it is deficient in exciting interest or affording amusement."¹³ Emerson, who seems never to have worked actively on the Cambridge enterprise, may not have known exactly whose feelings he was trampling upon. But he was aware of course that some of his associates in the *Anthology* Society, as well as other acquaintances, were editing and supplying the *Miscellany*. The reply that the *Anthology* received from the *Miscellany* (its authorship is unknown) was sufficiently arch.¹⁴ To it the *Anthology* replied with an air of offended dignity, pointing out that its strictures on the *Miscellany* had been somewhat severe but nevertheless dignified and friendly.

¹²*Anthology*, I, 428 (July, 1804). Reprinted over a year later by Dennie in the *Port Folio*, V, 318 (October 12, 1805). Also, see *Port Folio*, V, 325 (October 19, 1805).

¹³*Anthology*, II, 170 (April, 1805).

¹⁴See *Miscellany*, II, 49-53.

The suggestion thereupon follows that perhaps the two publications should agree to a division of labor, the *Anthology* to be devoted to belles lettres, the *Miscellany* to science (that is, in the eighteenth century sense of general knowledge). The Anthologist (probably Emerson again) concludes with a few bitter reflections upon the *Miscellany's* illiberal and contemptible attitude.¹⁵ Despite the provocative tone of this statement, the quarrel between the two magazines was dropped. The only further cognizance of it taken by either side occurs in a brief note in the Cambridge quarterly, declaring its editors to be "unwilling to prolong a literary contention, and extremely desirous to 'study the things, that make for peace, and things, whereby one may Edify another.'" ¹⁶

Could this Liliputian controversy have been a publicity stunt arranged among friends to attract subscribers to the fledgling magazines? In view of the circumstances this theory assumes a certain plausibility. Yet at the time the Boston-Cambridge community obviously could not support two such publications. Both were weaklings, but the *Anthology*, supported by the Anthology Society, was in the best position to survive for a time. Save for the *Harvard Lyceum*,¹⁷ a student publication, no periodical was published at Cambridge after the demise of the *Miscellany* until 1812.

II

The General Repository and Review, a typographically-pleasing octavo quarterly of some two hundred pages per number, was published and sold, like the *Miscellany*, by William Hilliard at Cambridge from January, 1812, to October,

¹⁵See *Anthology*, II, 446 (August, 1805).

¹⁶*Miscellany*, II, 200.

¹⁷Scattered issues of this rare publication are in The University of Texas Library.

1813.¹⁸ It was commenced and edited by Andrews Norton with the help of several Boston-Cambridge literati. Eventually Norton turned his journal over to a "Society of Gentlemen."

Norton's scheme was to publish a periodical employing the popular division into miscellany and review. The former section he treated more precisely than was usual, dividing it into departments of theology and general literature. For the whole he avowed an eclectic purpose, but his special bias is evident in the prospectus, which indicates an emphasis on biblical criticism.¹⁹

The *Repository's* miscellany section clearly represents an *avant garde* intellectual position in New England at about the time of the second war with England. Among the pieces on secular topics, for example, is a learned essay suggesting "Annotations on Milton's *Paradise Lost*," a study that brings to mind the concern for textual problems in literature that had become important in Europe. In the same connection should be mentioned a translation made by John Pickering of a pamphlet called *Notice des Ouvrages Elémentaires Manuscrits, sur la Langue Chinoise, que Possède le Bibliothèque Nationale*. The religious articles in the *Repository* are both more numerous and more noteworthy than the secular ones. Norton's polemical "Defence of Liberal Christianity" states the spiritual benefits attendant upon emancipation from New England orthodoxy. Buckminster's critique of the "Accuracy and Fidelity of Griesbach" points to the learned character which the liberal Christians assumed, as does Willard's translation of J. S. Semler's life from Eichhorn's *Allgemeine Bibliothek des Biblischen Litteratur*. A long and careful "Account of the Controversy Between

¹⁸The *Repository* was printed by a firm known as Hilliard and Metcalf. According to a notice on the front cover, subscriptions would be received in Boston, Salem, Portsmouth, Portland, Exeter, Middlebury, Hartford, New York City, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Charleston (South Carolina), as well as several other cities. The subscription rate was five dollars per year, half of that amount payable on delivery of the first number. See inside back cover of the first issue.

¹⁹This prospectus is printed inside the back cover of the first issue.

Dr. Priestley and Dr. Horsley, the Monthly Reviewer and Others" shows some influences that were pushing upon the liberals like Buckminster and Norton.

The review section in the *Repository* displays quite obviously the formative influence of the *Edinburgh Review*. One encounters several reviews done in the leisurely manner developed by the *Edinburgh* critics. There are, moreover, several reviews that encompass two or more works in a single discussion. In selecting works to be reviewed Norton was directed by his penchant for theological polemics rather than by devotion to general literature. Consequently a number of the reviews are a part of the massive literature produced by the Trinitarian-Anti-Trinitarian struggle in New England. A few secular ones are well worth attention, one of the most notable being Alexander H. Everett's article on *Die Deutschen Volksmaerchen* by Johann August Musaeus.²⁰ Other interesting reviews include comments on popular English works republished in America, notably William Sotheby's *Constance de Castile* (Boston, 1812), Robert Southey's *Curse of Kehama* (New York, 1811) and his *Metrical Tales* (Boston, 1811), Walter Scott's *Rokeby* (Philadelphia, 1813), and Lord Byron's *Poetical Works* (Philadelphia, 1813). The reviews of these works are illuminated by a revealing analysis of Archibald Alison's influential *Essays on the Nature and Principles of Taste* (Boston, 1812). Besides literary criticisms the non-religious reviews in the *Repository* include treatments of such works as M. Mie. de Montgaillard's *Situation of England* and Thomas Pope's *Treatise on Bridge Architecture*. At times in its reviewing of religious works the *Repository* pounced on minor items in a manner inconsistent with Norton's broad aims. For instance, a review of *Sermons on Various Subjects* by Henry Kollock is little more than an excuse for attacking Presbyterian gloominess. On the other hand, where else in America might an aspiring theological

²⁰See William Charvat, *Origins of American Critical Thought, 1810-1835* (Philadelphia, 1936), 183.

student find a translation of John David Michaelis's critique of Semler's *Abhandlung von Freyer Untersuchung des Canon?*

The *Repository* continued the useful practice begun by the *Anthology* of appending to the review section a department of literary intelligence consisting of a list of recent publications and general literary information. As in the *Anthology* new publications that had been acquired by the Boston Athenaeum were marked by an asterisk. In furnishing advice about literary activities Norton proposed to add to the usual fund of gossip and announcements as much information about American colleges as possible, Harvard in particular of course. This intention was only partly fulfilled, its most interesting result for the student of the period being an account of the Harvard Library in 1812.

Unfortunately it is not possible to ascertain with assurance the names of more than a few gentlemen who interested themselves in the *Repository*. In the first issue Norton speaks of having "reason to hope for the assistance of some, whose names are not equally unknown."²¹ John Gorham Palfrey states categorically, "Mr. Norton . . . received contributions from twenty-seven gentlemen, all then, or since, of unquestioned distinction, and some of the first eminence, in our republic of letters."²² Among those who can be identified as actively associated with the *Repository* most are from the old *Anthology* group; they include Buckminster, Willard, Alexander H. Everett, the Reverend Samuel Cooper Thacher, and John Pickering. The Reverend Horace Holley, later a champion of religious freedom at Transylvania University, also wrote for the *Repository*. In 1813 a circular issued on behalf of the periodical was signed by five Boston laymen—Samuel Eliot, Dudley A. Tyng, Samuel Dexter, Joseph Hall, and John Lowell. These men, one assumes, were only patrons.

²¹See inside back cover of the first number.

²²"Periodical Literature in the United States," *North American Review*, XXXIX, 298 (October, 1834).

The circular referred to was put out in an attempt to secure more subscriptions. For by the beginning of 1813 Norton saw clearly that his enterprise was a financial failure. In the fifth number he explained to his readers that the editor "in consequence of the encouragement of a number of gentlemen of our metropolis" had been prepared to expect an increase in the list of subscribers. The additional patronage had, however, not materialized, and as a result, he implies, a portion of the expense of the magazine must come from the editor's own pocket. With the eighth number Norton dissolved his connection with the quarterly, saying that it would likely be continued by "a society of gentlemen, all of whom have heretofore been contributors to the work." Who made up this group or how it was organized are matters of conjecture. That it grew in numbers is indicated by a notice in the *Repository's* final issue, which still found the editors hoping for better days.²² But the *esprit de corps* that had held the Anthologists together could not be generated again. Perhaps the times were too troubled. The publication was discontinued, therefore, with the eighth number.

Unquestionably one essential reason for the failure of the *Repository* was its high seriousness; its critical essays, especially its theological papers, were projected upon planes of learning that only the small group of the most learned could reach. When Henry Ware, Jr., a student at Exeter, received the first number of Norton's publication from his father with a request to obtain subscribers, he replied that

... though there are a number of literary men here, their thoughts and business are very distant from anything of this kind. Show them a political magazine, and they might patronize it; or a light work of polite literature, which might serve for recreation after the bustle of a busy day; but they feel no in-

²²See "Editor's Note," *Repository*, III, 231 (January, 1813); "Editor's Note," III, 403 (April, 1813); "The Editors to the Public," IV, 402-404 (October, 1813).

terest in theological controversy, or literary discussions, which must be studied in order to be relished.²⁴

Norton himself in looking back upon the *Repository* reflected that his work "was overburdened with learning, or with what passed for learning among us, out of proportion to the amount of theological knowledge, or interest in such knowledge, which existed among its readers." He was writing what nobody but himself understood, Dr. Kirkland informed him.²⁵

But Norton's insight into his youthful work was not very penetrating. The *Repository's* close relation to the dynamic forces that were at work in New England's intellectual and spiritual life was significant. The little magazine was not a failure, it was a prophecy.

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²⁴Henry, Jr. to Henry Ware, November 23, 1812, John Ware, *Memoir of the Life of Henry Ware, Jr.* (Boston, 1846), 43.

²⁵See "Letter of Mr. Ticknor to Mr. Norton," *Christian Examiner*, XLVII, 200 (September, 1849).

Bryant and Isaac Henderson

(Part II).

[NOTE: The first installment of these letters appeared in the CHRONICLE for Summer, 1949 — Vol. III, No. 3. This part concludes the series of twenty-one letters, here printed for the first time.].

XI

Rome, Italy, March 26. 1867

My dear sir.

Your letter of the 2d has just come to hand, with one from Mr. Cline of the 8th. I am glad to know that the *Evening Post* is doing so well. It is certainly ably managed, and all the criticisms that I should make in regard to it relate to but small matters and are not worth the carriage from Rome to New York. The recovery of the weekly and semi-weekly subscriptions is a good sign. I wonder how the readers of the *Tribune* bore the letter of Greeley, asking for them conditions even more favorable than the President dared to claim.

The letter detained in Spain is probably one which I sent to Monroe & Co. for I sent them all in that way from Spain — which, by some means, had been divested of the thin outer envelope in which I put it, and which had the proper stamps. I shall write to Mr. Perry sending the notification which you recieved and ask him to put on the stamps and have it forwarded. It probably contains the missing letter for the *Evening Post*, and Julia's to you.

As to my school-tax in Cummington, it is true that the District have not dealt very generously with me, but I am not sure

that the inhabitants are very well able to do so. It was a great deal for them to do, to build so expensive a house for their school; it must have taxed them much more heavily than they are accustomed to be taxed for such purposes, and I am not unwilling to bear my share of the burden. I am only surprised that they did not call upon me for my last years tax when I was in Cummington last summer, instead of postponing it to this winter.

I am very glad that we have got rid of Craig, who is one of the most brutal blackguards I ever knew and a rogue besides. Some rogues are civil and smooth tongued — indeed the majority of them, I think, owe what success they have to that — but Craig owed his to his extraordinary ill-manners. I am glad to hear that he is at last kicked out, as the phrase is, from any association with any part of the newspaper press. I suppose that every body at last got tired of his insolence.

We found Fanny here with Minna, a maidservant and Walter. She was in comfortable lodgings which she had hired for the winter, and we went immediately to her rooms, although they were a hundred and more steps high in the air. But when she came to settle with her landlady, she found her demands so extortionate and her behavior so grossly dishonest, that we were afraid to stay any longer in the rooms, after her departure, as we had at first intended, and immediately went to an hotel, where we are now, and Fanny left the city last night for Florence, where she will remain perhaps a fortnight and then return to the North — to Geneva first and then to Paris. They are all pretty well.

I am exceedingly sorry to hear of Mr. Wier's continued and severe illness. Kind regards to all — in your household, and at the Office.

Yours very truly
W. C. Bryant

I. Henderson Esq.

P. S. Please send the accompanying letter in an envelope to Mr. Cline.

W. C. B.

Dr. Charles King is here very ill and not expected to live.

W. C. B.

NOTES: Nevins (pp. 326-337) provides a convenient view of the editorial differences of the New York newspapers on Reconstruction and the impeachment of President Johnson. The letter by Greeley to which Bryant refers was a signed editorial in the *Tribune* for November 27, 1866, in which was advocated a policy of "Universal Amnesty and Impartial Suffrage." This the *Post* called another of Greeley's "cowardly surrenders," to which Greeley replied in "Between Us Be Truth," a signed editorial in the *Tribune* for February 4, 1867. I have been unable to discover any evidence of the effect of Greeley's position upon the circulation of his newspaper. ***** Monroe & Co. seem to have been Bryant's bankers (cf. No. XV). ***** Craig and Mr. Wier I have not identified. ***** "Walter" was Bryant's grandson, who died at Geneva in April (Godwin(II, 260; cf. No. XV), at the age of six. ***** Charles King (1789-1867), ninth president of Columbia College, died at Frascati on September 27, having been moved from Rome, where his son, General Rufus King, was at this date American minister.

XII

Paris, May 4th. 1867.

My dear sir.

We got here on the evening of the first of this month at nine o'clock and here I found two letters from you and a large bundle of newspapers waiting for me. I had heard at Dresden, through Mrs. Griffin, who corresponded with Miss Sands that you had bought a house for us and where it was situated, but was naturally curious to know more of the particulars, which your letters to me and Julia very fully communicated.

I am glad that you bought the house and resolved also to purchase such part of the furniture as might be desirable to take along with it. I have no doubt that you have made a good

bargain for me, and have done better for me, a good deal, than I can possibly do for myself. Julia and myself will now have a place ready for us in town when we arrive, and will be sure of a shelter when we come into town for a night. As to what Miss Sands should do, it is probable that the arrangement she suggests of furnishing the meals will be as convenient both for her and for us as any that could be thought of. That, I suppose, could, however, be arranged at any time. In the mean time I see at present no objections to the manner in which she proposes to appropriate the rooms, but that is a matter which I prefer to let Julia and her agree about.

The Evening Post has exceeded my expectations in its productiveness the present six months. It is managed very well — and with that appearance of impartiality and sincere conviction which always commands the attention and respect of the public. I wish you would say to Mr. Nordhoff that I hope he will keep in mind that what is now called the Republican party has no bond of cohesion except the question of the rights of the negro in the late slave states and that just as soon as that question is settled and put aside, the cards will be shuffled again, a new deal made and there will be a change of partners. My brother John, who is as decided an abolitionist as any body, as they are now called a thorough radical, writes me that there is dissatisfaction to a great extent and intensity at the west with the tariff and the party which enacted it. The moment the negro question ceases to occupy mens minds that discontent will break into a flame, and present party ties will be consumed like tow, leaving nothing but ashes.

There is yet another remark which I should be tempted to make to Mr. Nordhoff if I were writing to him, and if you will please to show him this letter, this part of it may be considered as addressed to him. There are two emotions raised by wrong-doing in those who are not active or sufferers — one is indignation, the other sorrow — the latter implies, I think, a more properly disciplined state of the feelings, though I would

by no means, in such cases withhold a just resentment from doing its part. It seems to me that the Evening Post never expresses anything but indignation, when perhaps redress could be more readily obtained, and the wrongdoer brought to see his fault more certainly, by dwelling upon the other side of feeling.

We remain here till the end of this month, after which we think of going to Scotland. How long we shall be in the British isles we have not yet decided, nor precisely when we shall return. We are at present as well as usual, and the fine weather which we seem to have brought with us, after a stormy month here, makes Paris much more pleasant than it was when we left it last.

Remember me most kindly to Mrs. Henderson and to all your household, and to the gentlemen engaged in the Evening Post belowstairs and above and believe me

truly yours
W. C. Bryant

I. Henderson Esq.

P. S. Please send the enclosed to Mr. Cline — W. C. B.

NOTES: Mrs. Griffin I have not identified. It seems probable that the house purchased by Henderson was that at 24 West Sixteenth Street, mentioned in Bryant's will (Bigelow, *Bryant*, p. 345). ***** Much information on John Howard Bryant, the poet's younger brother, has been provided recently by George V. Bohman ("A Poet's Mother: Sarah Snell Bryant in Illinois," *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, XXXIII, 166-189, June, 1940), and by Keith Huntress and Fred W. Lorch ("Bryant and Illinois: Further Letters of the Poet's Family," *New England Quarterly*, XVI, 634-647, December, 1943).

XIII

Paris, May 18th. 1867.

My dear sir.

As Julia and myself cannot be at our place in Cummington this season except for a very short time towards the end of it,

we beg you and Mrs. Dawes to recieve in our stead Mrs. Henderson the wife of my partner in the Evening Post and her daughters. They are persons for whom we have great esteem, and whom you will find agreeable inmates. We rely upon your kindness and that of Mrs. Dawes to do for them what you would do for us. You will of course have already taken care that the garden shall be sufficiently stocked with vegetables for the table. I hope also that you will, inasmuch as Mrs. Henderson will bring her servants, follow the arrangement made last year with Julia. — that is to say, have separate kitchens, inasmuch as that may be necessary in order to prevent the servants from being dissatisfied and leaving her.

We shall remain in Europe rather longer than I intended when we left America. We have seen a good deal of the Old World this time, having traversed Spain from north to south and back, coasted the Mediterranean to Florence, visited Rome, and then going northward by way of Ancona Venice and Trieste to Vienna, have visited half a dozen German cities, including Dresden where we passed several days, and finally by way of Strasburg have brought up in this city. This is a cold morning and I am sitting by a fire. In the beginning of this month we had a full week of summer heat. — I have written to Mr. Cline what I wished to be done, on the place you have and I suppose he has duly communicated with you. Kind regards to Mrs. Dawes and Miss Bartlett — not forgetting little Mary.

Yours very truly
W. C. Bryant

T. H. Dawes Esq.
Dear Mrs. Dawes.

Please make our friend Mrs. Henderson & anyone she may bring with her, as comfortable as possible and treat them with the same consideration that you would ourselves — I expect to

see Cummington before many months—In the meantime I wish you all a very pleasant summer —

Yours very truly —

Julia L. Bryant —

NOTES: The Daweses were the caretakers of the house and grounds at Cummington (Bigelow, *Bryant*, pp. 267-270). ***** Miss Bartlett I have not identified.

XIV

Paris, June 1st. 1867. —

My dear sir

I got your letter yesterday and am glad to hear that the Evening Post has got on so well during the past six months. I have received no letter yet from Mr. Cline written since Mr. Clark's arrival, who was, it seems to me, long in coming. If however, he is only two months at work on the house, it will be finished before we return. Julia I suppose has informed you when that will be God willing.

My friend Mr. Perry the Secretary of Legation at Madrid is much exercised in consequence of a scurrilous attack upon him in the Herald and his wife a Spanish lady and a very sensitive person has taken to her bed in consequence of her excitement. I have written to say that nobody minds the Herald in New York, that its anonymous slanders are not adopted by other journals, and that what they are worrying about, has probably been forgotten by every body else except the rascal who wrote it and that moreover I have answered it in an article for the Evening Post which they shall see.

I send you the article herewith, to be published editorially, but not exactly as a leader. Please send the Evening Post containing it to Horatio J. Perry, Secretary of Legation for the United States, Madrid Spain. —

I wish you would write to Mr. Antonio Corzanego at Valencia in Spain and send him the notification which you received,

of the letter to you destitute of the proper stamps. I have already written to him about it. It is possible that it may be the missing batch of letters addressed by me to you, and I am quite desirous to recover it if possible. It may be that he must have the notification to get at the letter.

Mr. Corzenago has sent me the accompanying letter for the Evening Post. It is not exactly what I expected and I leave to you and Mr. Nordhoff to say how long you will continue to employ him. If you choose to pay him up and let him discontinue, there is a reason for it in the irregularity and uncertainty of the arrival of the letters he writes.

At Julia's request I paid one thousand and eight hundred francs for an India shawl for Mrs. Henderson — Please give me credit according. (1800 fr.)

Best regards to all

Yours very truly
W. C. Bryant.

I. Henderson Esq.

NOTES: Mr. Clark I have not identified. ***** The attack on Perry appears in a despatch from Madrid printed in the New York *Herald* on May 4, 1867. The writer accused Perry of making the American legation "in many ways most obnoxious to the Spanish," specifically by obtaining a royal decree for a monopolistic submarine cable to the Canaries and by conniving in the sale of carpets and other goods brought in free of duty by consignment to the legation. I have found no evidence on the truth or falsity of these charges.

XV

Dear Mr. Henderson. I have only time to write a line & tell you that I have bought a cachemere shawl for Mrs Henderson as you desired. I could not find a handsome one with white like Josie's, but I did the best I could — The price 1800 francs, which Father paid — therefore please credit it to him instead of to me. I did not mention it in my letter to Mrs. H —, as I thought you might mean it as a surprise. I had also sent a much cheaper one of a different kind to her, of which I spoke.

Many thanks for my accounts. I like to see what I have on hand occasionally, but by this time alas, you will see that I am terribly in debt to the Evening Post. I don't ever expect to come to Europe again, & that consoles me a little for my extravagance. — We shall have to leave Mr. Godwin's letter at Monroe's for him, as no one knows where to send his letters. They will be gratified to know that little Walter's remains were received with so much affection & so tenderly cared for. My sister was constantly occupied here, but was in a very excited state, determined to keep up. The last two days, however, she could not do it. Traveling is the best thing for her, I hope. Mr. Godwin talks with no certainty of his return — one day he says June, & the next, early in August or July. I wonder if he does not intend to return a little before us. I write in haste — Yours most sincerely

Julia L. Bryant —

NOTES: This letter is undated, but was evidently written to accompany No. XIV, apparently after the longer letter to Mrs. Henderson, No. XVI. ***** "Josie" I have not identified, and I have found no details on Walter's death and burial beyond Bryant's consoling letter to his daughter Fanny, April 21, 1867 (Godwin, II, 260).

XVI

Paris — June 2nd 1867.

My dear Mrs. Henderson.

When I am living in Paris, I am to you only a chronicle of fashions. I shall therefore proceed to this interesting subject at once. I enclose a list of articles, I have bought for you. Please have the money credited to me. I am sure Mr. Henderson must think I am frightfully extravagant & reckless from the amount of money I draw. I received a letter from Mrs. Mackie, saying that when she received her dividend in July, she would settle with me — I cannot get over my annoyance,

that you should not receive this trunk of summer things, until the next trip of the Arapo [?]. Let me tell you, that although I got your costumes all with short sacks, yet I have since heard, that they will *probably* go out of fashion, soon — The basques are already much worn & it is said that circulars will come in, for next winter. I am having a winter cloak made of cloth — trimmed with real astrakan. — a close basque — The costumes are worn by most fashionable people with basques, especially for dressy costumes — The scalloping or bias folds on the two skirts & basque are sometimes, of another shade darker, which is very pretty. — the broad sash of the same darker shade, in ribbon or silk, and always tied behind in a large bow, with pretty long ends. A black & white silk suit, trimmed with black insertion, with an edge, & a colored ribbon laid under, is very pretty. Sometimes suits or costumes are made of silks with narrow stripes, the trimming matching the darkest stripe, & the bow of course, is the darkest shade, in trimming or ribbon — I saw a very pretty suit yesterday, of deep lavender or gray striped with narrow black, like as linen or thread — It had two skirts, the lower one trimmed with several rows of black velvet, quite narrow, the upper skirt just bound with narrow velvet, & slashed up the sides, with pieces of the same & trimming across — A tight fitting basque was bound in black velvet, made just a round basque, rather short & also open & caught together with trimming at the sides, a broad black silk ribbon was round the waist tied behind. A lavender bonnet — with a wreath of sweet briar in front, completed the costume — Brown, in two shades is much worn — The basques are generally made to put on, or off, with a belt. They are made much in peplum shape, that is with points, cut up at the sides in the shape of my astrakan cloak — & now the newest fashion seems to be to turn the points in front & behind, instead of at the side. — that is, two points in front & also two behind. — Sometimes, there is only one rather deep point in front & behind, but always a double skirt, or the appearance of such — The

upper skirt with very little trimming & the lower one without flounces & much trimmed — An under skirt, with a ruffle, a finger and a half wide, & a short gored dress coming to the ruffle over, with a sash & bow behind are also very fashionable — The upper skirt, often rounded up at the sides to the waist, & caught together with bands of the same — Pignés or Marseilles are made short, for young people, for summer dresses for the street — The prettiest costumes are all in quiet colors, sometimes with rather bright trimmings of green or *straw*. Bonnets don't change very much, anything small seems to be worn — It is said that the costumes are to be worn almost to the ground — just clearing the boot — hoops very small. Bonnet strings are of very narrow ribbons, an inch and inch & a half wide, tied before or behind, mostly in front if there is no veil, under the chin — I believe this is all I can tell you about fashions — & I write under great difficulties, in greatest haste, this letter being merely an adjunct of the enclosed list — June 3rd Father has returned from his ten days trip, much benefited, but anxious to get away from Paris I enclose his note to Mr. Dawes, which send to Mr. Dawes or not as you may decide, or as you think best — Father purposely did not mention the time of his return — Poor Mary Miller has gone — I only know the bare fact from a telegram received by the Lanes, but hope to-day to hear more — How very, very shocking it is. I can hardly believe it, even now, although I have so long expected it — Pardon this scrawl — I have a thousand things to do. My trunks must go off tomorrow & we follow the next day Much love to all —

Most affectionately
Julia L. Bryant

NOTES: This letter, with Nos. XIII and XV, was apparently sent together with Bryant's to Henderson (No. XIV). ***** Mrs. Mackie, Mary Miller, and the Lanes I have not identified. ***** "Pignés" is a fabric similar to piqué.

XVII

Crieff. Perthshire. Scotland.

June 21st. 1867.

My dear sir

I got your letters of the 21st of May and the 4th of June, both together, yesterday. Your letter of May 21st was sent in an envelope to Mr. Godwin, and a letter of the same date addressed to him put in the envelope addressed to me. I sent him his letter and asked for mine which reached me here last night.

I am very glad that the Evening Post made so liberal a dividend for the last six months — the result I am sure of good management. In the present state of business in the United States I do not expect the same prosperity for the next six months, and shall be content with a considerable falling off.

If you go to Cummington it would add much to the satisfaction of your visit if you had the means of enjoying the fine drives of the neighborhood. Mr. Dawes has no horses — he had none last summer — which any body could drive but himself. The country is exceedingly hilly but it is full of fine prospects from the summits and sides of the hills, and pleasant woods.

I enclose a letter to Mr. Cline, principally about Mr. Clark and the house on which he is occupied. I expect to go to Cummington sometime this fall, but for no long time, and I shall wish to be in my own place at Roslyn for some time immediately after my return, that I may see how things are going on there, and look to my fruit trees. Here on the border of the highlands, I cannot learn that they have any fruit till late in the season, and then only the small fruits — strawberries which come in July and after that gooseberries and raspberries. The air is invigorating, but very cool. I wonder how any thing ripens. I have just returned from a drive, in which I wore a thick great coat and came back quite chilled. Next week we

visit the Scottish Lakes and a few days after we go to the English Lakes and Wales.

Kind regards to Mrs. Henderson and all yr family and the gentlemen at the office

Very truly yours
W. C. Bryant

I. Henderson Esq.

P. S. [at top of first page] Please send the enclosed to Mr. Cline

XVIII

Low Wood Hotel Ambleside, England
July 16th 1867.

My dear sir.

The enclosed letter appeared in the Scotsman a daily journal published in Edinburgh — It appeared on the 8th of this month. The writer is Miss Jessie Gibson, formerly one of the heads of the excellent school for Young Ladies in Union Square. I send it because I am sure that you and Mr. Nordhoff will like to see it. Whether it should be copied into the Evening Post or not I leave to you and him to say. If it should be, I am sure that it will be best to change the heading, and not allow it to be introduced by any allusion to Mr. Greeley.

We have just arrived at this place on the Lake Windermere in Westmoreland, and I take advantage of a rainy day, which does not allow me to go out, to write this letter. Our visit to these Lakes has been delayed somewhat by Julia's indisposition which kept her a few days at Edinburgh while we were waiting for her at Patterdale, but she has now joined us and is considerable and I am glad to say, hopefully better. She seems to have had a pleasant time at the Scottish metropolis and to have made many friends there.

During the week that we were at Patterdale we had an opportunity of comparing the summer in Westmoreland with that in our own climate. There was little rain in that time, until

yesterday, but the weather was what we would call chilly. I slept every night under a good thick blanket. The cherries are yet green and about as large as currents. There were no strawberries yet — though I have found some here today just coming in. The moist skies and the cool climate keep the country fresh and green, but every thing ripens tardily and every sort of vegetable is slow in coming forward. There are many fine trees planted for ornament, but it is clear that they are not wanted, as with us for shade.

Tomorrow if the weather permit we shall look at the country about lake Windermere and its neighborhood, so celebrated by Wordsworth and other eminent poets, and the next day make wider excursions. I am a little impatient to get into Wales after seeing which we expect to extend our journey to Somersetshire.

We have met with a great deal of hospitality and attention since we came to this island.

Please give my regards to Mrs. Henderson and Miss Crawford and the younger members of your family

W. C. Bryant.

I Henderson Esq.

NOTES: Jessie Gibson was perhaps a relative of Christiana and Janet Gibson, of Edinburgh, with whom Bryant corresponded over a period of many years, and whose letters were extensively used by Godwin (II, *passim*). ***** Miss Bartlett I have not identified.

XIX

Cummington July 10th 1868.

My dear Sir.

We got here on Wednesday morning after a visit to Cambridge in such hot weather, that Julia and I, if there had been anything about us capable of melting, would have become fluid. We found that the people here had suffered also from the ex-

treme heat, but we have had showers since which have refreshed the country.

Will you oblige me by paying the enclosed bill to James M. Howe Esq. of Old Cambridge Massachusetts, and asking him to send it back receipted I suppose the best way will be to send a Certificate of deposit, endorsed payable to Mr. Howe's order.

Yours very truly
W. C. Bryant.

NOTE: I have been unable to identify James M. Howe.

XX

Havana February 17th. 1872

My dear Sir. We arrived here on the morning of the day before yesterday, after a favorable passage from Nassau. Yet the wind was northwest, blowing over the great Mexican Gulf, and rolling up such seas that our good steamer, the Missouri had a most uneasy motion which communicated itself to the stomachs of the passengers. Our baggage and that of all the visitors to Cuba passed a very lenient examination at the Custom House, though we had to wait for some time at the landing for the appearance of the custom house officer, who had not finished his breakfast.

The weather thus far is delightful, a soft June-like temperature, though on the day of our arrival the natives and others long resident here thought it cold. Havana is a place noisy with commerce, and in this respect contrasts singularly with every Spanish town in the old world that I have seen, even Barcelona, the most bustling of all of them. It is large too — a population of more than two hundred thousand. Clean it cannot be called, and I am persuaded that the sewerage is defective — so that the yellow fever finds some encouragement to make its visits.

When I was here twenty years since there was no hotel to which Americans could go. Now there are several — among which is the San Carlos, where we are staying. The rooms are airy and the table excellent, but just now it is crowded. Of the insurrection I hear nothing, but its seat is at the east end of the island where it smoulders yet, and where its partisans hope to see it break into a flame. The Spanish race is remarkable for its persistency and the leaders and followers of the revolt hide themselves in the thickets of the upland wastes.

We have heard since we came reports of the insecurity of travel on the road between Vera Cruz and the City of Mexico. They seem however to be merely verbal rumors. If literally taken, it would be little short of madness to attempt the journey to Mexico. But we find that most sensible people do not give them much credit, and they seem to have no bases but verbal rumor. We shall therefore go to Vera Cruz, and there expect to learn the truth. If they prove true we shall content ourselves with what can be seen of Mexico in that neighborhood. If they have no foundation we shall go into the capital. The womankind we shall leave behind here — both of them think they have had enough of the sea for the present.

It is not necessary to give any direction concerning our letters and papers beyond what has been given, except that I do not want Harpers Bazaar. The letters &c. for Julia and Miss Fairchild should still come to Havana.

Discharges of artillery are announcing the arrival of the Grand Duke Alexis.

Your very truly
W C Bryant

I Henderson Esq

NOTES: Bryant, together with his brother John, his daughter Julia, his niece Miss Fairchild, and John Durand (son of the artist, Asher B. Durand, and Bryant's companion on a tour of the Near East in 1852), left New York late in January and returned by the end of April (Godwin, II, 318-323). Despite internal disturbances in both Cuba and Mexico, this was one

of Bryant's most interesting trips, largely because of the friendship which his editorial policies had generated in Mexico. An account, "A Visit to Mexico," appears in *Prose Writings* (II, 148-185). See also Clara Cutler Chapin, "Bryant and Some of His Latin American Friends," *Bulletin of the Pan American Union*, LXXVIII, 609-613 (November, 1944). ***** The Grand Duke Alexis of Russia (b. 1850) had been in the United States since November 18, 1871. Some of the elaborate entertainment in his honor is described in *Harper's Weekly* (XV, 953, October 14, 1871; XV, 1146-1150, December 7, 1871).

XXI

Charleston South Carolina
April 2d 1873

My dear Sir.

I have agreed with Mr. George H. Putnam to relinquish the security I have by mortgage on land of his father in Connecticut on his giving me security on certain stereotype plates. I have recieved from Saml W. Tuttle, his lawyer at No. 20 Nassau Street a blank satisfaction piece which I am desired to execute and return to you. This I now do, and beg that you will be kind enough to receive the security he offers. You will find the paper enclosed with this note.

We are all well — Our journey has been prosperous both going to Florida and coming to this place. Charleston is not in so bad a way as has been represented. We are waiting a little while for Julia to rest. Kind regards to all the gentlemen of the office.

Yours very truly
W. C. Bryant.

I. Henderson Esq.

NOTES: In company with his two daughters, his niece, and John Durand, Bryant fled the New York cold between February and April, 1873 (Godwin, II, 329-332). On his return from St. Augustine, he and Governor Seymour of New York were entertained by the Chamber of Commerce of Charleston. ***** The Putnams had published Bryant's *Orations and Addresses* this same winter, probably after the death of George Palmer

Putnam in December, 1872; it is possible that the plates of this book are the ones referred to here. George Haven Putnam has described the effects of the Panic of 1873 upon his firm (*Memories of a Publisher, 1865-1915*, New York, 1915, p. 61). Bryant was evidently one of the "older friends" who rendered aid in a time of stress.

THEODORE HORNBERGER
FORMERLY PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH

Jared Bean, Philobiblos

ONE OF the most curious writings on librarianship is *The Old Librarian's Almanack*, the sub-title of which reads, "A very rare pamphlet first published in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1773 and now reprinted for the first time." Edmund Lester Pearson claimed to have discovered it among a collection of almanacs in a legal library that he was arranging and cataloging for the estate of a deceased lawyer, Nathaniel Cutter. Pearson reports that the entire Cutter collection was donated to the Newburyport Antiquarian Society which granted permission for a reprint which was made in 1909. With a preface by Pearson, it was edited by John Cotton Dana and Henry W. Kent and published by the Elm Tree Press as number one of the Librarian's Series. This printing was limited in number, and although copies are not rare, they have been out of print for several years. The one in The University of Texas Library, copyrighted in 1909 by Edmund L. Pearson and acquired by the Library in 1910, is the basis for the information and quotations contained in the present article.

Pearson in his preface to *The Old Librarian's Almanack* established authorship as follows: the title page had the word "Philobiblos" in Greek to indicate the author, and the initials "J.B." were found as a signature to a poem that accompanied the calendar page for March. Pearson claims that in the only other copy of the almanac he was able to locate, one less perfect and privately owned, the words "writ by me, Jared Bean" appeared in handwriting. A further and important link was presumably provided by the "Literary and Genealogical Annals of Connecticut," said to have recorded the following epitaph from an old New Haven burying ground:

JARED BEAN, PHILOBIBLOS

Death, thou has closed ye book of life
& set me free from earthly strife,
Ye page is turn'd & I'm at rest
Ye last word said, Finitum est.

Finally, Pearson states that Jared Bean was librarian of the Connecticut Society of Antiquarians from about 1754 until the time of his death, probably in 1788.

In format the work is representative of the almanac type of publication. Bound in boards, it contains thirty-nine unnumbered pages including a frontispiece, title page, and a three page preface. The versos of the almanac proper are divided into three parts, the first two of which consist of eight lines of verse and the phases of the moon. The calendar for the month, the usual zodiac information, probable weather predictions, and the author's couplets, crowded in as space allowed, make up a third division. The rectos are devoted to comments on a variety of subjects generally pertaining to librarianship.

It is these comments and asides that made the almanac unique in the pictures it presents not only of Bean but of other librarians. Among those to whom he turns for support or in admiration are Peleg Gudger, Simon Bagley, Master Timothy Mason, Dr. Gulley, and Enoch Sneed. The last of these appears to have been Bean's model librarian, a person with whom he is in complete accord "on every professional point." References to these fellow librarians contain no suggestion that they were unusual. Presumably they were typical of their time — book-lovers if not librarians by present-day standards.

"The Old Librarian" was a confirmed bachelor, and some of the most entertaining portions of the almanac are found on the page devoted to the subject of marriage in general and women in particular. At one moment Bean appears to concur with Peleg Gudger in the belief that "Matrimony is no fit Diversion for the Librarian." At another point he is perhaps

somewhat more generous in quoting Simon Bagley thus: "I have not found Wives to be altogether a too heavy Encumbrance. They can dust Books, and at times, they may be trusted to arrange the volumes properly in their places" and "may be train'd to partake in a Librarian's labours in such a way as not altogether to act as a Millstone about his Neck." But for the last word Bean turns to his model, Enoch Sneed, and agrees with that worthy's contention that "These Females are as Leeches or Bloodsuckers, hardly to be torn off. They would make you take your Victuals at certain fix'd seasons to conform to their rules of Housekeeping, regarding not that you may wish to read at those Hours; while again they will Babble & Complain should it chance that after a hard night's reading you ask that a hot Supper be served at Daybreak. Shun them as you would the Devil."

That the Librarian must have time for his reading, as is suggested by this stricture upon women, is also pointed out in short accounts of two of the fellow librarians already noted. Thus it was Dr. Gulley who, upon setting out to dust his library, became so engrossed in reading the first volume that he did not again take up his duster until the end of eighteen months, at which time he had completed his reading of the entire library. Master Timothy Mason considered his reading a sacred rite and obligation. On one occasion when he was deep in a book, he was interrupted by a request from one of the members of his library. Incensed by the interruption, Mason hailed a constable who happened to be passing and turned the intruder over to him as a disturber of the peace. Apparently Master Timothy's thirst for the printed page was unquenchable. It was his custom to read as he walked home from work each day, and he found that if he left the library at fifteen minutes before six, the striking of the village clock would announce to him that he had reached his house. Once, however, the clock failed to strike, and when darkness had obscured the print, Timothy raised his eyes to find himself in a neighboring village

six miles from home. Bean does not say, but it may have been this incident which led Master Mason to set up his bed in the library. There he could be near his books at all times and read them on the nights when he might be wakeful.

To Jared Bean, the librarian was not unlike the keeper of an armory who maintains a selected stock for use by the proper persons at the proper time. Neither the keeper nor the librarian manufactures his weapons or stock, but both are concerned with having only the best at hand. Twenty years of experience had convinced Bean that the Librarian should be "a person of sober and Godly life, learn'd, virtuous, chaste, moral, frugal, and temperate." Such a person could be trusted to follow "The Old Librarian's" standards in book selection, an art which required care, circumspection, prudence, and shrewd bargaining with the bookseller.

Yourself must judge the books you buy
And let the vulgar rabble cry.

Personal examination of each copy before purchase was urged, and a careful perusal after purchase was essential. Certainly the borrower should not be given the book until the librarian was assured of its contents.

Once books were acquired for the library, there was the question of who should use them. Apparently such persons were to be few in number.

Better the Library be clos'd
Than to the ignorant expos'd.

Like Sneed, Bean believed it better to have no one in the library other than the librarian if it meant a lost book.

Lend not your books to learned men,
If you would see your books again.

Courtesy was well enough, but vigilance was the eternal watchword.

Tho' spiders build across the shelf,
Admit no others but yourself.

Let no intruders put your ease in doubt,
Lock fast the doors & keep the rascals out.

As if these couplets crowded into the almanac material were not enough, care was taken to point out in the essay proper that no error could be made in excluding persons younger than twenty, except a student over eighteen vouched for by his tutor. As for women:

Be suspicious of Women. They are given to the Reading of frivolous Romances, and at all events, their presence in a Library adds little to (if it does not indeed, detract from) that aspect of Gravity, Seriousness and Learning which is its greatest Glory. You will make no error in excluding them altogether, even though by that Act it befall that you should prohibit from entering some one of those Excellent Females who are distinguished by their Wit and Learning.

Among others to be excluded Bean lists politicians, necromancers, charlatans, quacks, humbugs, vendors of nostrums, teachers of false knowledge, fanatic preachers, gamesters, gypsies, vagrants, those with infectious diseases, those dressed in gaudy or eccentric apparel, the light witted, shallow, base, obscene, senile, and the immature in mind. Children were to be forbidden as disturbances. They were, in fact, a group for whom only a small portion of the library was intended: a few books on morals, to be carefully selected for young readers by their parents.

Vigilance against users of books was not the librarian's only concern. There were enemies of books, enemies in the form of man, mouse, and insect. To Bean book thieves were accursed wretches, "sneaking unutterable villains" who deserved punishment both on earth and in the hereafter.

In any land where I am king
Who steals a book has got to swing.

And he who marks or tears the leaves
A wholesome flogging he receives.

On gallow fifty cubits high
Hang the wretch and let him die,
A dozen of my books he stole,
May God have mercy on his soul!

While the bookworm and lowly mouse took their toll, Bean wrote "Of the Enemies of Books I especially esteem the Cockroach."

The agile bookworm eats, concealed from sight,
Also the prowling mouse abhors the light,
But be assured Philobiblos knows,
The hellish Cockroach is the chief of foes.

The mouse could be warded off without too much trouble, but the roach, "in view of the Celerity of his movement, & the amazing fecundity with which he reproduces his Kind," was a "greater bother to remove." The ruins the roach made of his precious volumes all but moved "The Old Librarian" to tears. Although he found it impossible to conquer the worst of his enemies, he notes:

I have found the following Preparation to be highly serviceable: To three minims of distilled Hen-Bane, add four drops of the Tincture of Saffron. Take this Mixture & combine it with half a gill of the Liquor which comes from boyling a peck of common Tansy. After allowing it to cool, add four great spoonfuls of pure Vinegar, a pinch of powdered Rhubarb, & the Juce of a score of Mulberries, heated well. The resulting Compound should be kept in a Jar, tightly seal'd, & sprinkled on the Book Shelves, or wherever the Enemy are seen.

Concerning the cataloging of books, "The Old Librarian" was not overenthusiastic. For him a ledger entry in a numbered

ARS BIBLIOTHECARI

First of all matters, 'tis your greatest need
To read unceasing & unceasing read;
When one Book's ended, with a mind unvext
Turn then your whole Attention to the Next.
Let naught intrude; to all the World be blind,
And chase each vain allurement from your Mind.
Be also deaf: 'tis well to turn the Lock,
And let who will the outer portal knock.
Behold in Books your Raiment & your Bread,
So, lacking Books, you're neither warm'd nor fed;
Chuse then with care, repudiate the Chaff,
Or see corruption spoil the better half;
For one base volume spreads the Poison through,—
A single Traitor can a Host undo.
As Books, like Men, go better neatly drest,
Let Paper, Print, & Binding be the Best.
Your Books obtain'd, behold the Problem rise
How best secure them from unworthy eyes;
Or, graver yet, to guard lest you're bereft
By Fire, Worms, or (absit omen!) Theft.
Remember this: they're safe upon the shelf,
When none has access thither but yourself.
As you to guard them best are qualifi'd,
So you to read them, clearly 'tis impli'd.
Be vigilant your Treasury to keep,
In watchful care know neither rest nor sleep;
All other Readers better far keep out
Than put the safety of your Books in doubt.
And first, or last, this Precept ever heed:
To read unceasing, and unceasing read.

J. B.

"Jared Bean" advises librarians about their duties.
(A page from *The Old Librarian's Almanack*)

sequence by order of purchase was sufficient for each title as it was added. Beyond this, methods of grouping books by subject seemed a useless waste of time and labor. The librarian alone had access to the shelves, and when a book was requested, it would be a simple matter to remember the purchase date of the volume and procure the book from its resting place.

One of the phases of librarianship which appealed to "The Old Librarian" was the annual inventory, known to him as the annual examination. These six weeks or two months, with the troublesome annoyances of the rest of the year and the sultry heat of July and August shut out, were "Halcyon Days." All books were in place on the shelves, for either they had been returned "under Pain of Expulsion," or you had sought "some of them Yourself, taking care, at the same time, to administer a Reproof to the delinquent Ones." Protective paper covers were examined and replaced, contents were censored, and any books immoral or debasing in character were destroyed.

You have conquer'd in the race
When every volume's in its place.

The annual examination, properly conducted, required a week for completion, and the librarian could devote the remainder of the period to the "relishment of his books."

Stand not outdoors, gaping like a Ninny at Nature.
She will take care of herself. Read your books.

The final couplet in the calendar for December hints that the almanac will be continued another year

Adieu! Farewell!! Whatever books ye lack,
Pass not the year without my almanack.

Because of turbulent conditions in the colonies, however, one would judge that a 1775 almanac might not appear. According to Pearson's preface Bean was an ardent supporter of the crown and never renounced his allegiance to George III. In his declining years, he might have turned even more to his books to

find peace and quiet in their counsel apart from the world with which he could not or would not change.

When friends betray & politicians plot,
Turn to your books & mind the rascals not.

The last two pages of the work are devoted to a remedial receipe characteristic of early almanacs. The text of "A sure and certain cure for the Bite of a Rattlesnake Made Publick by Abel Puffer of Stoughton" follows:

If the Sufferer be Bit in the Leg (as it is very likely to happen) let him be plac'd in a revers'd position; that is, with his Head down and his Feet in the Air — it may be most convenient to lean him so against a Wall or Fence, or if neither be at hand then against a Tree or Bush.

Then, without any Delay whatsoever, let there be appli'd to the place where the Fangs have punctur'd the Skin a Plaister made in the following manner: Beat to a soft or pulpy consistency six Plantain leaves that have previously been wash'd. Mingle with them 12 drops of Liquor obtain'd in this fashion: Soak in half a cup of Rain Water the Heart of a large Gander, add a third part of an ounce of the dry'd roots of the Yarrow, some bruis'd Colewort, a spoonful of the Blue Flag, dry'd & powder'd, four or five stalks of the common Pennyroyal, a half ounce of the Rind of roasted Crab Apples, some preserv'd blossoms of Alecumpane, and eight Peppercorns. This Liquor should simmer slowly for forty-eight hours, and when it is about finish'd, add a few seeds of the Indian Gourd, removing them, however, at the end of an Hour.

When the drops from the resulting Liquor are mix'd with the paste of Plantain leaves, the Plaister should be appli'd on the Wound, and mark that all depends that this is done within ten minutes from the time when the Sufferer was Bitten. (It may be well that a

Minister of the Gospel be sent for, if so be it that one is at hand.)

Then require the Sufferer to move his Limbs about, at first slowly, now with increasing speed, till he do thrash them about with all the Vigour and Rapidity in his power. After this, let him rise, and run in a circle, or nearly so, first giving him to drink half a glass of Jamaica Rum. When he be ready to fall from Dizziness (which flushes the Brain with Blood) again apply a second Plaister, like the first. Tokens of improving Health are sure to be seen in the Sufferer, if not, Prayers had better be address'd to Providence.

Book reviewers in 1909 and 1910 gave highly favorable accounts of *The Old Librarian's Almanack*. The *Library Journal* suggested, however, that the true book-hunter might find worthwhile a trip to Newburyport to handle the original, and the *Independent*,² in a review several months later, called it "one of the cleverest hoaxes in recent years." In a later work Pearson gives his account of the deception, perpetrated at the time he was librarian of the *Boston Transcript*, in conjunction with two other librarians, Dana of Newark Public and Kent of the Grolier Society. The idea was conceived under the supposition that the almanac would be readily recognized as a hoax because of the anachronisms, archaic language, clews of modern origin, and farcical parody on the cure for the bite of a rattlesnake. Pearson states further that after the *New York Sun* "reviewed it for a column and a half, with no apparent doubt that the date was 1774," he hastily dispatched a letter "which gave sufficient intimation of modern authorship of the book." Evidently this was not sufficient to clear up the deception, for "discoveries" and "exposures" of Pearson continued to appear for more than two years.³

¹*Library Journal*, v. 35 (February 1910), p. 84.

²*Independent*, v. 69 (September 22, 1910), p. 654.

³Pearson, Edmund L. *Books in Black or Red* (Macmillan, 1923), pp. 26-31.

Although Pearson and his colleagues were no little surprised at the success of their undertaking, acceptance of the almanac was perhaps in keeping with the attitude of readers toward books, particularly toward one with which authorities were associated. The typography and format of the book, the "fac-similie" frontispiece, and the astronomical and meteorological details, copied from a 1774 almanac, were no doubt convincing to many. And finally, the almanac's portrait of the librarian is not notably dissimilar to the one provided by tradition and our limited knowledge of library figures of the period under discussion. Hoax though it is, *The Old Librarian's Almanack* is a happy blend of imagination, legend, and scholarship — a rare parody of early American librarianship. As such it will continue to make for delightful and entertaining reading.

FRED FOLMER

ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN

The Arthur Livingston Papers

(At The University of Texas)

THE LATE Arthur Livingston, professor of Italian at Columbia University, was both a distinguished scholar and an active intermediary for international understanding. Through the good offices of Miss Elizabeth Abbott, Arthur Livingston's secretary, collaborator and executrix, and Miss Fannie Ratchford, Wrenn Librarian, The University of Texas has acquired the private papers, records and documents of varied nature found in Dr. Livingston's office at the time of his death in 1944. Miss Abbott, it will be remembered, was jointly responsible with Mrs. Speranza for the University's earlier acquisition of the Gino Speranza collection of Italo-American books; and the Speranza collection further ties up with the B. Harvey Carroll archives, also found at The University of Texas, which deal with Italy at the time of the first World War. It is indeed fortunate that these inter-related and mutually supplementary collections should be brought together in one library.

The bulk of the Livingston collection consists of his voluminous private correspondence, covering the years c. 1918-1944. Some of this material is, of course, of a purely personal nature, but the greater part of it is of great interest for the student of Italo-American relations and the development of Italian studies in America. Dr. Livingston's reputation in Italy is reflected by the regularity with which newcomers from that country turned to him for help and information; and in this connection he played the combined rôle of Mentor and Maecenas on many occasions. Likewise, in America, students of things Italian con-

stantly went to him for information and advice. With outstanding native American teachers of Italian he seems to have had fewer contacts. While the files contain in general only letters received by Dr. Livingston, in a few cases, to which he obviously attached special importance, a rough draft of his reply is included. Even a cursory examination of this correspondence reveals the tremendous activity of Dr. Livingston in the dissemination of Italian culture in America, and a complete history of this subject could scarcely be written without consulting the material found here.

Dr. Livingston's personal interest in such a history is reflected by his study of the pioneer work of Lorenzo da Ponte. Much of the source material employed by him and Miss Abbott for their study and translation of the *Memorie* is included in the collection, together with a set of the New York publications of Lorenzo da Ponte, covering the years 1823-1833. This set was obtained through Otto Lange of Florence from a brother of Arturo Toscanini, who at one time had a book shop in Milano. Toscanini asserted that this was Da Ponte's own copy, though it is not autographed.

A fairly complete bibliography of the publications of Dr. Livingston could be compiled from pamphlets, magazine articles, book reviews and clippings found in this collection, since he seems to have preserved a copy of practically everything that he wrote. Likewise, his multifarious activities as a translator and publisher of foreign works, chiefly Italian, are very interestingly reflected in his correspondence. Obviously the most important undertaking in this field was the translation of Pareto's great treatise on sociology, published by Harcourt, Brace and Company. Livingston's own Foreign Press Service, later changing its name to Kennaday and Livingston, was in operation from 1919 to 1925.

At the time when Fascist propaganda was most active in this country, Dr. Livingston, at odds with his university's adminis-

tration and its department of Italian, turned for a time to the study and teaching of French literature. This phase of his career is represented by lecture notes and an extensive "bibliographie raisonnée."

A hasty and necessarily superficial examination of the material contained in the Livingston collection makes evident its great interest for the student of Italian culture in America. It may confidently be predicted that the careful analysis and organization that it will receive at the hands of Miss Ratchford will bring to light further contributions that it can make to this subject.

CARL A. SWANSON
PROFESSOR OF ROMANCE LANGUAGES

New Acquisitions

THIS SECTION reviews from time to time the important gifts and purchases received in the Library for the period between issues of the CHRONICLE. It is a selective list, and is not always able to mention every item which may be worthy of attention, but it is intended that it shall always be representative of the more significant type of acquisitions.

LATIN AMERICAN COLLECTION

Manuel Toussaint, *La catedral de México y el sagrario metropolitano, su historia, su tesoro, su arte* (México, Comisión Diocesana de Orden y Decoro, 1948), recently added to the Latin American Collection, is illustrative of the best in the Mexican book-making industry. Bound in full calf with raised bands, silver clasps and escutcheon of the cathedral in silver and printed on fine heavy Strathmore paper, the large folio volume contains ninety-eight half-tone plates, twenty color plates, and forty-four hand illuminated chapter initials.

On its three hundred seventy-seven two-column pages is written the canonical history and the story of the life of the cathedral from 1525, when the first Christian church in Mexico was erected by the Spaniards, to the present time. Here are recorded historical descriptions of its interior constructions and furnishings — chapels, altars, organs, and grillwork — and its artistic treasures from the sixteenth century to the present — paintings, sculptures, ivories, embroideries, missals, and carvings. Its appendix contains inedited or rare documents on the artists and artisans engaged in the construction and decoration of the cathedral.

The artistic excellence of this volume reflects in full measure the scholarly attainments of its director and editor, Manuel Toussaint.

RARE BOOK COLLECTIONS

I

In September, 1949, Rare Book Collections acquired through an American dealer sixteen filing cases tightly packed with Brontëana totalling thousands of items. The mass contains no costly first editions or original letters or other Brontë autographs, but it is a valuable storehouse of secondary source material of a kind which is peculiarly useful to the bibliographer and literary historian. To a project already in progress at The University of Texas—a review of the century of Brontë criticism—it is a veritable *sine qua non*, which is to say that never again can so nearly complete a gathering of magazine and newspaper Brontëana be brought together.

Roughly grouped, the collection is made up of (1) printed and typewritten bibliographies and catalogues of the Brontë family and its individual members in every phase of their life, work, and environment, (2) several thousand magazine articles and newspaper clippings pertaining to the Brontës, (3) transcripts of all letters by and to the Brontës known to the collector, with notes of their location, and transcripts of many of the Brontë juvenilia, (4) facsimiles of Brontë manuscripts, (5) scarce books and private prints, including many of the Wise-Shorter pamphlets, and (6) hundreds of original photographs and lantern slides of persons, places, and objects connected with the Brontës.

This mass of Brontëana, accumulated by Alex Symington in association with Thomas J. Wise, overlaps in part (carbon copies of certain transcripts) with the Brontë group of the Symington papers acquired a few years ago by Rutgers University.

Whatever may be Symington's shortcomings as scholar and editor, his foresight and industry, in view of these papers, are undeniable. It is evident that he took full advantage of his association with Wise in assembling the Brotherton Library

and as editor of the Brontës to gather up and preserve the "crumbs that fell from that rich man's table." In doing so he has served scholarship out of all proportion to the American dollars the papers brought him, for the group acquired by the University will save workers in the Brontë field incalculable years of tedious combing of library shelves.

II

Guided by Dr. D. T. Starnes, Rare Book Collections have within the past year greatly enlarged their holdings in dictionaries and kindred works. The following are a few of the lately acquired titles: Robert Ainsworth, *Thesaurus linguae latinae compendiarium* (London, 1751); Nathan Bailey, *An universal etymological English dictionary* (London, 1724 and 1755); Giuseppe Marco Antonio Baretti, *A dictionary, Spanish and English, and English and Spanish* (London, 1778); Ambrogio Calepino, *Ambrosii Calepini dictionaryum* (Venice, 1564) and *Calepinus* (Venice, 1509); Robert Estienne, *Dictionary. Latinogallicum, iam inde post multas editiones plurimum adauctum*. (Paris, 1561); Francis Gouldman, *A copious dictionary* (Cambridge, 1669 and 1674); *Linguae romanae dictionary luculentum novum* (Cambridge, 1693); Adam Littleton, *Dr. Adam Littleton's Latin dictionary* (London, 1735); Mario Nizzoli, *Nizolius, sive Thesaurus Ciceronianus* (Basle, 1548); Thomas Thomas, *Thomae Thomasii dictionaryum* (Cambridge, 1596); Noah Webster, *The elementary spelling book* (New Brunswick, N.J., 1836 (c1829)); Thomas Wilson, *A Christian dictionary* (London, 1622 and 1630?).

III

Thanks to the continued generosity of Mrs. Frank J. Sprague, Rare Book Collections now boasts a goodly group of Walt Whitman ephemera, including a fair representation of the work of Henry S. Saunders pertaining to Whitman. Among the

latest acquisitions are: William Gay, *Walt Whitman* (Toronto, 1939 and 1941); Emily S. Hamblen, *Walt Whitman* (Girard, Kansas, c1924); Herman Livezey, *Sleet* (Camden, N.J., 1927); *Poems of Walt Whitman* (Girard, Kansas, c1924); Henry S. Saunders, *An Introduction to Walt Whitman* (Toronto, 1934), *Whitman in Fiction* (Toronto, 1947) and *100 Photographs of Walt Whitman*.

IV

Other purchases and gifts include: *Arden of Feversham* (London, 1770); Francis Beaumont, *The works* (London, 1711); Bible, *The Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, of the Old and New-Testament* (Boston, 1730); William Blake, *Dante's Divine comedy* (Kensington, 19—), *Eight songs* (New York, 1926), *Pencil drawings* (London, 1927), *The songs of experience* (London, 1927), *The songs of innocence* (London, 1927), *William Blake, Twelve designs for "The Grave"* (New York, 1926), and *William Blake's designs for Gray's poems* (London, 1922); James Boswell, *The life of Samuel Johnson* (London, 1791); William Bowyer, *The origin of printing* (London, 1774); Hugh Broughton, *An epistle to the learned nobilitie of England* (Middelburgh, 1597); Erasmus Darwin, *The temple of nature* (London, 1803); Lorenzo Dow, *The dealings of God, man, and the devil* (New York, c1849); Sir George Etherege, *The comical revenge* (London, 1664); François de Salignac de la Mothe-Fénelon, *The adventures of Telemachus* (Philadelphia, 1806); Oliver Goldsmith, *Poems and plays* (London, 1780); George Hakewill, *An apologie or declaration of the power and providence of God in the government of the world* (Oxford, 1630); William Joyner, *The Roman empress* (London, 1671); John Milton, *Poems* (London, 1926); John Playford, *Select ayres and dialogues for one, two, and three voyces* (London, 1659); *Poems on affairs of state* (London, 1697); William Pryor, *A briefe survey and censure of Mr Cozens his couzening deuotions* (London,

1628); John Ruskin, *The art of England* (Orpington, Kent, 1883-84), *Deucalion* (Orpington, 1879-83), *Fors clavigera* (Orpington, 1878-84), *The laws of Fesole* (Orpington, 1879), *Love's meinie* (Orpington, 1881) and *Proserpina* (Orpington, 1879-86); *The scrutiny* (London, 1708); William Shakespeare, *Love's labour's lost* (London, 1714) and *Twelfth-night* (London, 1709); William Gilmore Simms, *Mellichampe* (New York, 1836); William Joseph Snelling, *Tales of travels west of the Mississippi* (Boston, 1830); Sir Robert Stapleton, *The tragedie of Hero and Leander* (London, 1669); *State-poems* (London, 1697); William Winstanley, *The new help to discourse* (London, 1721); *Wit's recreations* (London, 1640 and 1641); William Wycherley, *Love in a wood* (London, 1672).

GENERAL

I

The Library has acquired a complete run of *Ansonia* (10 vols., Rome 1907-1921), a review of archaeology and of art, published by the Societa Italiana di Archeologia e Storia dell'Arte. This was a sumptuous periodical, richly equipped with numerous plates and illustrations in the text. While stressing Roman archaeology and art, it covered the field in the broadest sense. It was suspended for a while during World War I, but was resumed in 1919 and published its last issue in 1921.

The articles were written by outstanding authorities, such as Amelung, Lanciani, Giglioli, Paribeni, Maiuri, Della Corte, and others whose names are familiar to students of archaeology. Besides the articles, which cover a considerable range, there are reports of the results of excavations in Italy, Greece, North Africa, and the Mediterranean World generally, and reviews and notices of new publications. It is of prime importance for research work in the field of classical archaeology, especially for expert reports of discoveries during the period which it covers.

II

Graduate students in French history who need to go to France for more material for dissertations can be saved much floundering when they have some clue as to the location of their materials. A recent acquisition of the Library, *Catalogue général des manuscrits des bibliothèques publiques de France*, in 51 volumes, presents one of these clues, since it gives a comprehensive list of manuscripts in the leading public libraries of France. It might be added that students of language should be assisted too; for one item in the catalog for Marseilles is "Notes sur la grammaire provençal: orthographe, déclinaisons, conjugaisons, fragments de dictionnaire." The volumes are indexed, though a table of contents in addition would have enhanced their usefulness.

III

A recent acquisition by the Library is a series of costume plates designed by Percy Anderson, the English watercolor artist, for Clyde Fitch's play *The Toast of the Town*, starring Viola Allen, which was produced at Daly's Theatre in New York on November 27, 1905. The setting of the play is England during the reign of George III.

Originally written for Modjeska as *Mistress Betty* and produced by her for a brief run at the Garrick Theatre, New York, in 1895, the play was rewritten in 1900 and offered to Ada Rehan, who refused it. In 1905 it was revised for Viola Allen as *The Comedy Mask* and ultimately re-christened *The Toast of the Town*. It was not a success, running only slightly more than a month.

The costume plates for *The Toast of the Town* show Viola Allen in the role of an actress, Mistress Betty Singleton (in one of the plates she is dressed for Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing*); Robert Drouet as the Duke of Malmsbury; Alice Wilson as Lady Charlotte; Ferdinand Gottschalk as an old man lodger; and Hassard Short as a footman.

Percy Anderson had previously (1901) designed the costumes for Fitch's play about old New York, *Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines*. During the last decades of the nineteenth century and first of the twentieth when we had no men in this country really skilled in the decorative side of the stage, the American comedian Francis Wilson also called on the talent of the Englishman. Percy Anderson furnished Wilson with costume sketches for all his period pieces.

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